

POR

A book was writ, called Tetrachordon,
The subject new: it walk'd the town a while,
Numb'ring good intellects; now seldom per'd on. *Milton.*
The eye grows weary, with poring perpetually on the same thing.
Dryden's Dufresnoy.
Let him with pedants hunt for praise in books,
Pore out his life amongst the lazy gownmen,
Grow old and vainly proud in fancy'd knowledge. *Rowe.*
With sharpen'd sight pale antiquaries pore,
Th' inscription value, but the rust adore. *Pope.*
He hath been poring so long upon Fox's Martyrs, that he
imagines himself living in the reign of queen Mary. *Swift.*
The design is to avoid the imputation of pedantry, to shew
that they understand men and manners, and have not been
poring upon old unfashionable books. *Swift.*
POREBLIND. *adj.* [commonly spoken and written *partblind*.]
Nearighted; shortighted.
Partblind men see best in the dimmer light, and likewise
have their sight stronger near at hand, than those that are not
partblind, and can read and write smaller letters; for that the
spirits visual in those that are *partblind* are thinner and rarer
than in others, and therefore the greater light disperseth
them. *Bacon's Natural History.*
PORINESS. *n. f.* [from *pore*.] Fullness of pores.
I took off the dressings, and set the trepan above the frac-
tured bone, considering the *poriness* of the bone below. *Wifem.*
PORISTICK method. *n. f.* [*ποριστικός*.] In mathematicks, is that
which determines when, by what means, and how many differ-
ent ways a problem may be solved. *Diſt.*
PORK. *n. f.* [*porc*, Fr. *porcus*, Lat.] Swines flesh unsalted.
You are no good member of the commonwealth; for, in
converting Jews to christians, you raise the price of pork.
Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice.
All flesh full of nourishment, as beef and pork, increaseth the
matter of *phlegm*. *Floyer on the Humours.*
PORKER. *n. f.* [from *pork*.] A hog; a pig.
Strait to the lodgements of his head he run,
Where the fat *porters* slept beneath the sun. *Pope.*
PORKFEATER. *n. f.* [*pork* and *eater*.] One who feeds on pork.
This making of christians will raise the price of hogs; if
we grow all to be *porkfeaters*, we shall not shortly have a rather
on the coals for money. *Shaksf. Merch. of Venice.*
PORKET. [from *pork*.] A young hog.
A priest appears
And off'rings to the flaming altars bears;
A *porket*, and a lamb that never suffer'd shears. *Dryden.*
PORKLING. *n. f.* [from *pork*.] A young pig.
A hovel
Will serve thee in winter, moreover than that,
To shut up thy *porklings*, thou meanest to fat. *Tuſſer.*
POROSITY. *n. f.* [from *porous*.] Quality of having pores.
This is a good experiment for the disclosure of the nature
of colours; which of them require a finer *porosity*, and which
a grosser. *Bacon's Natural History.*
POROUS. *adj.* [*porous*, Fr. from *pore*.] Having small spiracles
or passages.
The rapid current, which through veins
Of *porous* earth with kindly thirst updrawn,
Rose a fresh fountain, and with many a rill
Water'd the garden. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. iv.
Of light the greater part he took, and plac'd
In the sun's orb, made *porous* to receive
And drink the liquid light; firm to retain
Her gather'd beams; great palace now of light. *Milton.*
POROUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *porous*.] The quality of having
pores.
They will forcibly get into the *porousness* of it, and pass
between part and part, and separate the parts of that thing
one from another; as a knife doth a solid substance, by hav-
ing its thinnest parts press'd into it. *Digby on Bodies.*
PORPHYRE. *n. f.* [from *πορφύρεα*; *porphyrites*, Lat. *porphyre*,
Porphyry.] *n. f.* Marble of a particular kind.
I like best the *porphyry*, white or green marble, with a
mullar or upper stone of the same. *Peachment on Drawing.*
Consider the red and white colours in *porphyre*; hinder light
but from striking on it, its colours vanish, and produce no
such ideas in us; but upon the return of light, it produces
these appearances again. *Locke.*
PORPOISE. *n. f.* [*porc* *poisson*, Fr.] The sea-hog.
PORPUS. *n. f.* [*porc* *poisson*, Fr.] The sea-hog.
Amphibious animals link the terrestrial and aquatic to-
gether; seals live at land and at sea, and *porpuses* have the
warm blood and entrails of a hog. *Locke.*
Parch'd with unextinguish'd thirst,
Small beer I guzzle till I burst;
And then I drag a bloated corpus
Swell'd with a droply like a *porpus*. *Swift.*
PORPACIOUS. *adj.* [*porracus*, Lat. *porrace*, Fr.] Greenish.
If the lesser inclines be wounded, he will be troubled
with *porraceous* vomiting. *Wifeman's Surgery.*
PORRET. *n. f.* [*porrum*, Lat.] A scallion.
It is not an easy problem to resolve why garlick, mols

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and *porrets* have white roots, deep green leaves and black
seeds. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
PORRIDGE. *n. f.* [more properly *porrage*; *porrata*, low Latin,
from *porrum*, a leek.] Food made by boiling meat in
water; broth.
I had as lief you should tell me of a mess of *porridge*, *Sho.*
PORRIDGEPOT. *n. f.* [*porridge* and *pot*.] The pot in which
meat is boiled for a family.
PORRINGER. *n. f.* [from *porridge*.]
1. A vessel in which broth is eaten.
A small wax candle put in a socket of brass, then set up-
right in a *porringer* full of spirit of wine, then set both the
candle and spirit of wine on fire, and you shall see the flame
of the candle become four times bigger than otherwise, and
appear globular. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
A physician undertakes a woman with fore eyes, who
daws 'em quite up with ointment, and while the was in
that pickle, carries off a *porringer*. *L'Esrange.*
The *porringers*, that in a row
Hung high, and made a glittering show,
Were now but leathern buckets rang'd. *Swift.*
2. It seems in *Shakespeare's* time to have been a word of con-
tempt for a headress; of which perhaps the first of these
passages may shew the reason.
Here is the cap your worship did bespeak.
—Why this was moulded on a *porringer*. *Shaksf.*
A haberdasher's wife of small wit rail'd upon me, till her
pink'd *porringer* fell off her head. *Shaksf. Henry VIII.*
PORRECTION. *n. f.* [*porrectio*, Latin.] The act of reaching
forth.
PORT. *n. f.* [*port*, Fr. *portus*, Latin.]
1. A harbour; a safe station for ships.
Her small gondelay her *port* did make,
And that gay pair sailing on the shore,
Disburden'd her. *Fairy Queen*, b. ii.
Peering in maps for *ports*, and ways and roads. *Shaksf.*
The earl of Newcastle seized upon that town; when there
was not one *port* town in England, that avowed their obe-
dience to the king. *Clarendon*, b. viii.
A weather beaten vessel holds
Gladly the *port*. *Milton.*
2. [*Porta*, Lat. *portus*, Sax. *porte*, Fr.] A gate.
Shew all thy praises within the *ports* of the daughter of
Sion. *Psalms* ix. 14.
Descend, and open your uncharged *ports*. *Shaksf.*
He I accuse,
The city *ports* by this hath entered. *Shaksf. Coriolanus.*
O polish'd perturbation! golden care!
That keep'st the *ports* of slumber open wide
To many a watchful night; sleep with it now!
Yet not to found, and half so deeply sweet,
As he, whose brow with homely biggen bounds
Snarcs out the watch of night. *Shaksf. Henry IV.*
The mind of man hath two *ports*; the one always fre-
quented by the entrance of manifold vanities; the other de-
solate and overgrown with grass, by which enter our chari-
table thoughts and divine contemplations.
From their ivory *port* the cherubim
Forth issu'd. *Milton.*
3. The aperture in a ship, at which the gun is put out.
At Portsmouth the Mary Rose, by a little sway of the
ship in casting about, her *ports* being within sixteen inches of
the water, was overlet and lost. *Raleigh.*
The linlocks touch, the pond'rous ball expires,
The vigorous seaman every *port* hole plie.
And adds his heart to every gun he fires. *Dryden.*
4. [*Portie*, Fr.] Carriage; air; mien; manner; bearing;
external appearance; demeanour.
In that proud *port*, which her so goodly graces,
Whiles her fair face the rears up to the sky,
And to the ground her eyelids low embraceth,
Most goodly temperature ye may descry. *Spenser.*
Think you much to pay two thousand crowns,
And bear the name and *port* of gentleman?
See Godfrey there in purple clad and gold,
His stately *port* and princely look behold. *Fairfax.*
Their *port* was more than human, as they flood;
I took it for a fairy vision
Of some gay creatures of the element,
That in the colours of the rainbow live. *Milton.*
A proud man is so far from making himself great by his
haughty and contemptuous *port*, that he is usually punished
with neglect for it. *Collier on Pride.*
Now lay the line, and measure all thy court,
By inward virtue, not external *port*;
And find whom justly to prefer above
The man on whom my judgment plac'd my love. *Dryden.*
Thy plummy crest
Nods horrible, with more terrific *port*
Thou walk'st, and seem'st already in the fight. *Philip.*

To PORT

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To PORT. *v. a.* [*porto*, Lat. *portus*, Fr.] To carry in form.
Th' angelick squadron bright
Turn'd fiery red, sharpening in mooned horns
Their phalaxes, and began to hem him round
With *ported* spears. *Milton's Par. Lost*, b. iv.
PORTABLE. *adj.* [*portabilis*, Lat.]
1. Manageable by the hand.
2. Such as may be born along with one.
The pleasure of the religious man is an easy and *portable*
pleasure, such an one as he carries about in his bosom, with-
out alarming the eye or envy of the world. *South.*
3. Such as is transported or carried from one place to another.
Most other *portable* commodities decay quickly in their use;
but money is by slower degrees removed from, or brought into
the free commerce of any country, than the greatest part of
other merchandise. *Locke.*
4. Sufferable; supportable.
How light and *portable* my pains seem now,
When that which makes me bend, makes the king bow.
Shakespeare's King Lear.
All these are *portable*
With other graces weigh'd. *Shaksf. Macbeth.*
PORTABLENESS. *n. f.* [from *portable*.] The quality of being
portable.
PORTAGE. *n. f.* [*portage*, Fr.]
1. The price of carriage.
2. [From *port*.] Portolice.
Lend the eye a terrible aspect;
Let it pry through the *portage* of the head,
Like the brass cannon. *Shakespeare's Henry V.*
PORTAL. *n. f.* [*portalis*, Fr. *po tella*, Italian.] A gate; the
arch under which the gate opens.
King Richard doth appear,
As doth the blushing discontented sun,
From out the fiery *portal* of the east. *Shaksf. Rich. II.*
Though I should run
To these disclosing *ports* of the sun;
And walk his way, until his horses sleep
Their fiery locks in the Iberian deep. *Sandys.*
He through heav'n
That open'd him her blazing *ports*, led
To God's eternal house direct the way. *Milton.*
The sick for air before the *portal* gap.
The *portal* consists of a composite order unknown to the
ancients. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*
PORTANCE. *n. f.* [from *porter*, Fr.] Air; mien; port; de-
meanour.
There stepped forth a goodly lady,
That seem'd to be a woman of great worth,
And by her stately *portance* born of heavenly birth. *F. Qu.*
Your loves,
Thinking upon his services, took from you
The apprehension of his present *portance*,
Which gibingly, ungravelly, he did fashion. *Shaksf.*
PORTASS. *n. f.* [sometimes called *portais*, and by Chaucer *port-
bois*.] A breviary; a prayer book.
In his hand his *portais* still he bare,
That much was worn, but therein little red;
For of devotion he had little care. *Fairy Queen.*
An old priest always read in his *portais* mumpimus domine
for mumpimus; whereof when he was admonish'd, he said that
he now had us'd mumpimus thirty years, and would not leave
his old mumpimus for their new mumpimus. *Camden.*
PORTELLIS. *n. f.* [*portellus*, Fr. quasi *porta clausa*.] A
PORTECLUSE. *n. f.* sort of machine like a harrow, hung over the
gates of a city, to be let down to keep out an enemy.
Over it a fair *portellus* hung,
Which to the gate directly did incline,
With comely compass and compacture strong,
Neither unevenly short, nor yet exceeding long. *F. Qu.*
The cannon against St. Stephen's gate executed so well,
that the *portellus* and gate were broken, and entry opened
into the city. *Hayward.*
She the huge *portellus* high up drew,
Which but herself, not all the Sygian pow'rs
Cou'd once have mov'd.
Pyrrhus comes, the torn men nor walls
His force sustains, the torn *portellus* falls.
The upper eyelid claps down, and is as good a fence as a
portellus against the importunity of the enemy. *More.*
The gates are opened, the *portellus* drawn;
And deluges of armies from the town
Come pouring in. *Dryden.*
To PORTELLIS. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To bar; to shut
up.
Within my mouth you have engag'd my tongue,
Doubly *portellus*'d with my teeth and lips. *Shaksf.*
PORTEYED. *adj.* [*porter*, Fr.] Borne in a certain or regular
order.
They hem him round with *ported* spears. *Milton.*
To PORTEND. *v. o.* [*portende*, Lat.] To foretoken; to
foreshow as omens.

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As many as remained, he earnestly exhorteth to prevent
ported calamities. *Hobbes.*
Doth this churlish superscription
Portend some alteration in good will? *Shaksf.*
A moist and a cool summer *portendeth* a hard winter. *Bacon.*
True opener of mine eyes,
Much better seems this vision, and more hope
Of peaceful days *portends*, than those two past. *Milton.*
True posts are the guardians of a state,
And when they fail, *portend* approaching fate. *Rescommen.*
The ruin of the state in the destruction of the church, is
not only *portended* as its sign, but also inferred from it as its
cause. *South's Sermon.*
PORTENSION. *n. f.* [from *portend*.] The act of foretoking.
Although the red comets do carry the *portensions* of Mars,
the brightly white should be of the influence of Venus. *Brown.*
PORTENT. *n. f.* [*portentum*, Lat.] Omen of ill; prodigy
foretoking misery.
O, what *portents* are these?
Some heavy business hath my lord in hand,
And I must know it. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*
My loss by dire *portents* the god foretold;
You riven oak, the fairest of the green. *Dryden.*
PORTENTOUS. *adj.* [*portentus*, Lat. from *portent*.] Mon-
strous; prodigious; foretoking ill.
They are *portentous* things
Unto the climate, that they point at. *Shaksf.*
This *portentous* figure
Comes armed through our watch so like the king
That was. *Shaksf. Hamlet.*
Overlay
With this *portentous* bridge the dark abyss. *Milton.*
No beast of more *portentous* size
In the Hercinian forest lies. *Rescommen.*
Let us look upon them as so many prodigious exceptions
from our common nature, as so many *portentous* animals, like
the strange unnatural productions of Africa. *South.*
Every unwanted meteor is *portentous*, and some divine
prognostick. *Glanvil.*
The petticoat will shrink at your first coming to town; at
least a touch of your pen will make it contract itself, and by
that means oblige several who are terrified or astonish'd at this
portentous novelty. *Addison's Spectator*, N^o 127.
PORTER. *n. f.* [*portier*, Fr. from *porta*, Lat. a gate.]
1. One that has the charge of the gate.
Porter, remember what I give in charge,
And, when you've so done, bring the keys to me. *Shaksf.*
Arm all my household presently, and charge
The *porter* he let no man in till day. *Benj. Johnson.*
Nec Frog demanded to be his *porter*, and his fifthmonger,
to keep the keys of his gates, and furnish the kitchen. *Arb.*
2. One who waits at the door to receive messengers.
A fav'rite *porter* with his master vie,
Be brib'd as often, and as often lie. *Pope.*
3. [*Porteus*, Fr. from *porta*, Lat. to carry.] One who carries
burthens for hire.
It is with kings sometimes as with *porters*, whose packs
may jostle one against the other, yet remain good friends
still. *Hovell.*
By *porter*, who can tell, whether I mean a man who bears
burthens, or a servant who waits at a gate? *Watts.*
PORTERAGE. *n. f.* [from *porter*.] Money paid for carriage.
PORTESSE. *n. f.* A breviary. See PORTASS.
PORTELAVE. *n. f.* [*porter* and *glave*, Fr. and Erse.] A sword
bearer. *Ainsworth.*
PORTGRAVE. *n. f.* [*porta*, Lat. and *grave*, Teut. a keeper.]
PORTGREVE. *n. f.* The keeper of a gate. Obsolete.
PORTICO. *n. f.* [*porticus*, Lat. *portica*, Italian; *portique*, Fr.]
A covered walk; a piazza.
The rich their wealth bestow
On some expensive airy *portico*;
Where safe from showers they may be born in state,
And free from tempests for fair weather wait. *Dryden.*
PORTION. *n. f.* [*portio*, Fr. *portio*, Latin.]
1. A part.
These are parts of his ways, but how little a *portion* is
heard of him? *Job xxvi. 14.*
Like favour find the Irish, with like fate
Advanc'd to be a *portion* of our state. *Waller.*
In battles won, *portion* a part did claim,
And foldiers have their *portion* in the fame. *Waller.*
Those great *portions* or fragments fell into the abyss; some
in one posture, and some in another. *Burnet.*
Pirithous no small *portion* of the war
Prest'd on, and shook his lance. *Dryden.*
2. A part assign'd; an allotment; a dividend.
Here their pris'n ordain'd and *portion* set. *Milton.*
Shou'd you no honey vow to taste,
But what the master-bees have plac'd
In compass of their cells, how small
A *portion* to your share would fall? *Waller.*

Of